William C. Rand, Esq. LAW OFFICE OF WILLIAM COUDERT RAND 711 Third Ave., Suite 1505 New York, New York 10017 (Phone) (212) 286-1425; (Fax)(212) 599-7909 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

EDWARD JENKINS. Individually : ECF

EDWARD JENKINS, Individually : and on Behalf of All Other : Persons Similarly Situated, :

Plaintiffs,

08 Civ. 3527 (GBD)(DF)

-against-

NBC UNIVERSAL, INC., EXECUTIVE PEGASUS LIMOUSINE, LLC, PEGASUS TRANSPORT SERVICE, INC., CENGIZ TASDEMIR, RON JACOBOVICH, And JOHN DOES #1-10,

Defendants.

DECLARATION OF CECIL COVIN

## DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF CECIL COVIN

- I, CECIL COVIN, hereby declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the following is true:
- I was a limousine driver employed by Executive Pegasus Limousine,
   LLC, NBC Universal, Inc., Cengiz Tasdemir and Ron Jacobovich (togetner
   "Defendants"). I worked for Defendants from on or about May 2007 until April 2008 (the "time period").
- 2. I worked as a limousine driver for Defendants and drove more than 90% of my routes in New York State. Most of my routes commenced or ended at NBC locations in New York City including among others the following: NBC + MSNBC at 49 W. 49<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, N.Y. or 50 West 50<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, N.Y., Oxygen Media at 75 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.(between 15 & 16<sup>th</sup> St.), New York, N.Y., NBC at 535 E. 45<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, N.Y. and the NBC Studio at 135 East 50<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, N.Y.
- I never saw any notice posted indicating that van and/or limousine drivers were entitled to minimum wage and overtime.
- 4. Upon information and belief I worked for Defendants with at least 100 other similar limousine and van driver employees who had the same duties as myself.
- My duties did not include managerial responsibilities or the exercise of independent business judgment.
  - 6. During the time period, I worked an average of 65-70 hours per week.
- 7. Defendants first paid me an hourly wage of \$12.00 per hour and then on or about November 2007 increased my hourly rate to \$13.00.

- 8. Defendants did not pay me time and one half for any of my hours worked over 40 in a week ("overtime").
- 9. I have attached hereto as Exhibit A paystubs showing that I worked more than 40 hours per week and was not paid time and one half.
- 10. Defendants did not pay me my regular hourly rate for all of the hours that I worked. Defendants often improperly deducted from my hours 45 minutes per day of break time on days when I worked through my lunch break. I generally worked through lunch and did not take a lunch break on about 50% of my days worked..
- 11. I electronically punched in and out of my job by placing my hand in a punchclock. On or about February 2008, I and the other the drivers also signed in to a logbook kept by the dispatcher in addition to doing the electronic hand check in.
- 12. The passengers that I drove told me that the Defendants were adding a charge to the bill as a gratuity. Nevertheless, I was never paid any gratuities or tips from Defendants even though, upon information and belief, the Defendants received the tips from the customer. Defendants never at any time paid to me any tips or gratuities.
- 13. In addition to myself, during the time period, I am aware and have personal knowledge of other persons employed by Defendants as limousine and van drivers who performed the same or similar work as myself. Upon information and belief, Defendants hired at least 100 of such similar van and limousine drivers.
- 14. I and the other similar van and limousine driver employees regularly worked more than 40 hours per week for Defendants.
- 15. I and these other similar van and limousine driver employees worked more than 40 hours per week and were not paid time and one half for our overtime hours.

- 16. I know that others like me worked overtime and were not paid overtime by Defendants because I observed the other van and limousine driver employees working more than 40 hours in a week and discussed the issue with certain of these other similar van and limousine driver employees, including Edward Jenkins, Steven Griffin, Andrew. Michael, and Lorenzo, who all said that they worked more than 40 hours per week and that Defendants did not pay them time and one half their regular hourly rate for their overtime hours and did not pay them even at their regular hourly rate for all the hours that they worked. They all have stated to me that they worked as van and limousine driver workers for Defendants and worked more than 40 hours per week and were not paid time and one half for their hours worked over 40 in a workweek.
- I repeatedly complained to my supervisor, Ron Jacobovich, about not 17. being paid time and one half for overtime. He told me that Defendants had a policy not to pay overtime at time and one half to any limousine driver employees.
- Throughout the time period that I worked at Defendants, and, upon 18. information and belief, both before that time and continuing until the present, Defendants have likewise employed other individuals, like myself, in positions as van and limousine driver workers.
- Such individuals have worked in excess of 40 hours per week, yet the 19. Defendants have likewise willfully failed to pay them overtime compensation of one and one-half times their regular hourly rate.

Dated: June 18, 2008

Ceif Covin

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## EXHIBIT A

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CASE 1:08-CV-03527-GBD DOCUMENT TILE 07/01/2000 Page out o

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DIRECT DEPOSIT NOTICE

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CECIL COVIN

\*\*\*\*\*\*DIRECT DEPOSIT NOTICE ONLY - DO NOT CASH\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*VOID\*\*\*\*

CECIL COVIN 45 GLEN COURT NORTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07063

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The NJ Conscientious Employee Protection Act makes it unlawful for a public or private employer to discharge, suspend, demote, or take other retaliatory action against an employee who refuses to participate in unlawful or unethical activity and/or disclose unlawful activity to a supervisor or government agency. Please contact Extensis HR at 1-888-473-6398 if any additional information is required.

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